

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

DHA-02 /079 W

-----104548 191855Z /43

O 191735Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8496

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 4235

DEPT PASS TO AMB MCHENRY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PROG, UN, SF, WA

SUBJECT: BRIEFING OF SAG ON NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP TALKS WITH SWAPO

REF: USUN 2651, USUN 2619, USUN 2566,

THE FIVE AMBASSADORS MET AT 1600 TODAY, AUGUST 19, WITH SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BRAND FOURIE TO BRIEF HIM ON NEW YORK CONTACT GROUP'S TALKS AUGUST 8-11 WITH SWAPO. THE FOLLOWING IS THEIR AGREED REPORT ON THE MEETING.

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BEGIN TEXT

1. BY THE TIME OUR FINAL INSTRUCTIONS ARRIVED, IT WAS TOO LATE TO CATCH BOTHA BEFORE HE LEFT FOR CAPE TOWN. INSTEAD, WE CALLED ON FOURIE AT 1600.

2. THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE MEETING WAS RELAXED. THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR ON BEHALF OF THE FIVE REVIEWED THE

MAIN ELEMENTS OF THE NON-PAPER, FOLLOWING WHICH HE  
PRESENTED ORALLY THE FULL TEXT OF THE TALKING POINTS.

3. AS THE NON-PAPER AND TALKING POINTS WERE REVIEWED,  
BRAND FOURIE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

(A) IN PARAGRAPH 13 OF THE NON-PAPER FOURIE TOOK  
EXCEPTION TO THE LANGUAGE "THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT:" HE  
POINTED OUT THAT WHAT HAD BEEN AGREED BETWEEN THE FIVE AND  
SWAPO WAS NOT A MATTER IN WHICH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT  
HAD NECESSARILY CONCURRED.

(B) IN PARA 13(A) OF THE NON-PAPER FOURIE TOOK  
EXCEPTION TO THE STATEMENT THAT THE UN PRESENCE MUST BE  
INSTALLED IN THE TERRITORY "FROM THE OUTSET OF THE TRANSITIONAL  
PERIOD." HE ARGUED THAT IN SOUTH AFRICAN EYES THE  
TRANSITIONAL PERIOD HAD ALREADY BEGUN AND POINTED OUT THAT  
THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD HAD NEVER BEEN DEFINED.

(C) IN PARA 13(C) HE COMMENTED THAT THE USE OF THE  
WORD "ENSURE" WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT  
THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WOULD "SATISFY HIMSELF."

(D) IN PARA (E) OF THE TALKING POINTS FOURIE REACTED  
TO THE REFERENCE TO MILITARY PERSONNEL BY INQUIRING WHETHER  
THEY WOULD BE IN UNIFORM. HE ADDED THAT "YOU WON'T GET  
VERY FAR WITH THIS ON THE SOUTH AFRICAN SIDE."

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(E) IN PARA (J) OF THE TALKING POINTS FOURIE  
ASKED WHAT EVIDENCE WE HAD FOR SAYING THAT SOUTH AFRICA  
WAS PROVIDING OPEN SUPPORT TO TURNHALLE REPRESENTATIVES.  
WHEN WE GAVE AS AN EXAMPLE NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT SOUTH  
AFRICAN MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAD CARRIED TURNHALLE DELEGATES  
TO OVAMBO TO CAMPAIGN THERE, HE DID NOT DENY IT AND SAID  
HE WOULD HAVE TO INQUIRE. FOURIE INDICATED THAT THE SAG  
HAD MADE CLEAR THAT EACH GROUP MUST DO ITS CAMPAIGNING  
ON ITS OWN RESOURCES. FOURIE ALSO REFERRED TO A DOCUMENT  
GIVEN TO SWAPO BY A MAGISTRATE TO THE EFFECT THAT THEY  
WERE FREE TO START POLITICAL ACTIVITY AS SOON AS THEY HAD  
AGREED TO PARTICIPATE PEACEFULLY AND TO DISASSOCIATE  
THEMSELVES FROM VIOLENCE. HE PROMISED TO PROVIDE COPIES  
OF THE MAGISTRATE'S COMMUNICATION. HE ALSO TRIED TO PARRY  
OUR ARGUMENT BY SAYING THAT UNITED NATIONS BROADCASTS IN FAVOR  
OF SWAPO WERE BEAMED INTO NAMIBIA FROM ANGOLA.

4. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING FOURIE CONFIRMED  
THAT TODAY THE SAG HAD GAZETTED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE  
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL, THE DESIGNATION OF  
JUDGE STEYN, AND THE DUTIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL.

THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR SPECIFIES THAT IT  
WILL TAKE EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 1. THE TEXT OF THE  
PROCLAMATIONS FOLLOW IN A SEPARATE TELEGRAM (PRETORIA 4234).

5. FOURIE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE IN LONDON BOTHA AND  
HE HAD PROMISED THAT ON RETURN TO PRETORIA THEY WOULD  
TRY TO PERSUADE THE PRIME MINISTER TO AGREE TO POSTPONE  
THE APPOINTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL TO A DATE  
LATER THAN AUGUST 22. THEY HAD INDEED TRIED TO DO  
THIS BUTH BOTHA WAS NOT ABLE TO PERSUADE THE PRIME MINISTER  
TO DEFER THE APPOINTMENT BEYOND SEPTEMBER 1.

6. AS THE MEETING ENDED, FOURIE OBSERVED THAT HE DID  
NOT WANT TO COMMENT ON THE FORCES WITHDRAWAL QUESTION.  
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HE NOTED THAT THE SWAPO CAMPS WERE FROM 1-3 KMS. FROM  
THE BORDER WHILE WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES WOULD  
PLACE THEM FAR FROM THE SCENE OF OPERATIONS. HE DID NOT  
RULE OUT, HOWEVER, FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THIS MATTER IN TERMS  
OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CEASE-FIRE. END TEXT.

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ACTION IO-14

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NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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DEPT PASS TO AMB MCHENRY

7. COMMENT: FOURIE'S ATTITUDE THROUGHOUT THE MEETING WAS THAT HE WELCOMED THE BRIEFING AND WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE INFORMATION PROVIDED. HE WANTED TO CONSULT ABOUT THE POINTS WITH OTHERS. MEANWHILE, HIS SILENCE ON MOST OF THE PRESENTATION SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS CONSENT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009